India Habitat Centre

1128. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) when was the India Habitat Centre established and for what purpose;

(b) what concessions were given by Government;

(c) whether Government have control over the Indian Habitat Centre;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there have been complaints of favouritism or irregularities in the enrolment of members?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) India Habitat Centre (IHC) was established as a registered society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 21st October, 1987. The principal, aims and objectives of IHC are given the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) No concessions were given by the Govt. The land was allotted to the "Society" at the prevailing institutional rates.

(c) and (d) As per the terms of the allotment and the Constitution of the Society, the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Urban Development dealing with "Lands" is a nominee of the Govt. on the Governing Council of IHC.

(e) The relationship between Ministry of Urban Development and India Habitat Centre is that of a lessor and lessee.

If any specific complaints are brought to the notice of the Ministry, it will be taken up by the Joint Secretary with India Habitat Centre.

Statement

Principle, Aims and Objectives of India Habitat Centre

(i) Develop an integrated physical environment in which various professions and institutions dealing with different facts of habitat related environmental issues would function, interact and attempt to resolve habitat related problems in a co-ordinated manner.

(ii) Promote awareness in regard to habitat related environmental issues including water, air, noise and waste pollution, energy and its conservation, water and human waste management and such other matters.

(iii) Promote better urban and rural settlements relevant to the India, social, cultural and economic context and related to the life style of its people.

(iv) Inculcate better awareness and sensitivity in regard to all aspects of creative productivity including the significance of art in habitat.

(v) Document all relevant information pertaining to habitat human settlements and environmental issues.

(vi) Advise and if needed, assist the Government in the formation and implementation of policies relating to habitat and human settlements.

(vii) Promote education, research, training and professional development on habitat and human settlement and environment related issues.

(viii) Organise and promote conferences, seminars, lectures, public debates and exhibitions in matters relating to habitat, human settlements and environment.

(ix) Offer awards, prices, scholarships and stipends in furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.

(x) Cooperate and collaborate with other national or international institutions in furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.

(xi) Acquire, hold, improve and develop lands and construct building and related facilities on behalf of the members of the Centre.

(xii) Organise and maintain residential hostels, restaurants and other amenities for its members, their guests and non-members invited by the Centre.

(xiii) Maintain and keep in good repair all building and common services.

(xiv) Constitute or cause to be constituted Regional Centres at convenient places to promote the objective of the Centre.

(xv) Do all such other lawful activities as the Centre considers conducive to the attainment of all or any of the other objectives.

MRTS in Delhi

1129. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when MRTS system will become operational in Delhi;

(b) the total estimated cost of the project;

(c) how much area and distance will be covered by the MRTS transport;